July 21, 1931. W. L. EDGARTON 1,815,371

INKING PAD

Filed March 30, 1929 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

Fig. 1

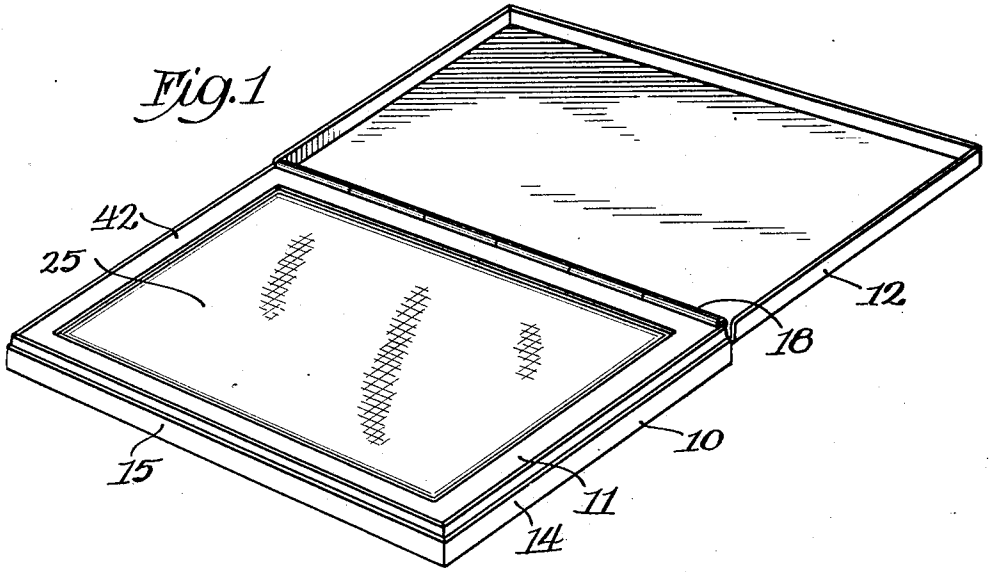



Fig. 2

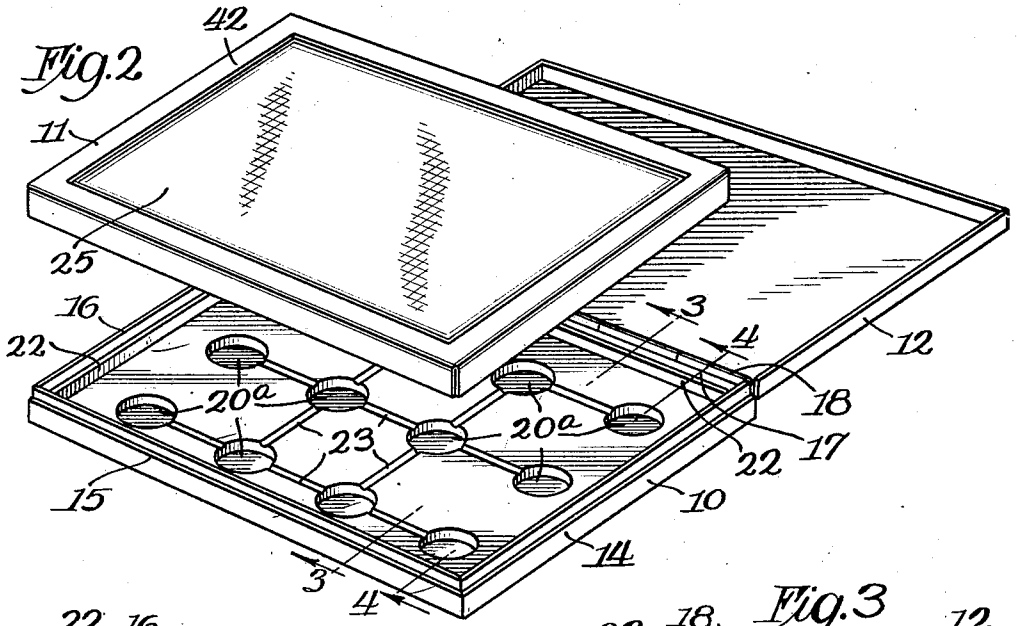
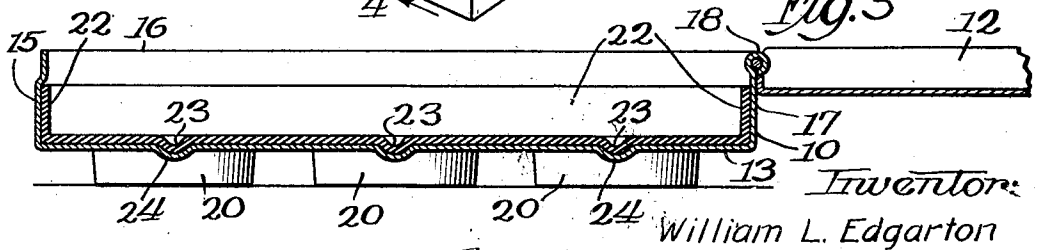



Fig. 3




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Fig. 4

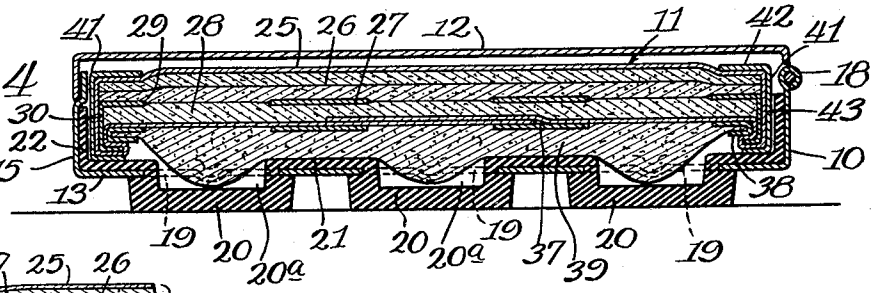



Fig. 7

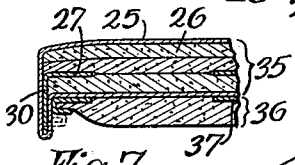



Fig. 5

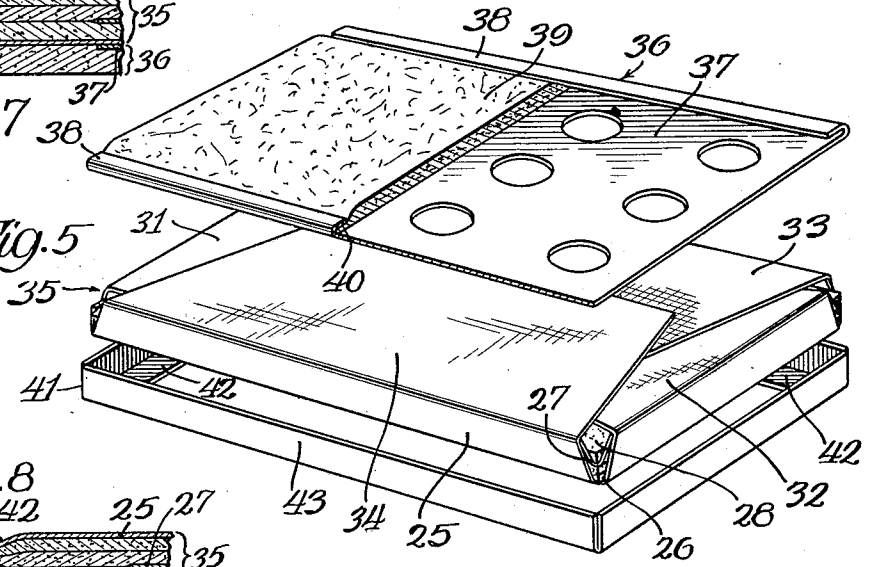



Fig. 8

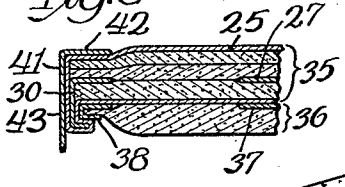
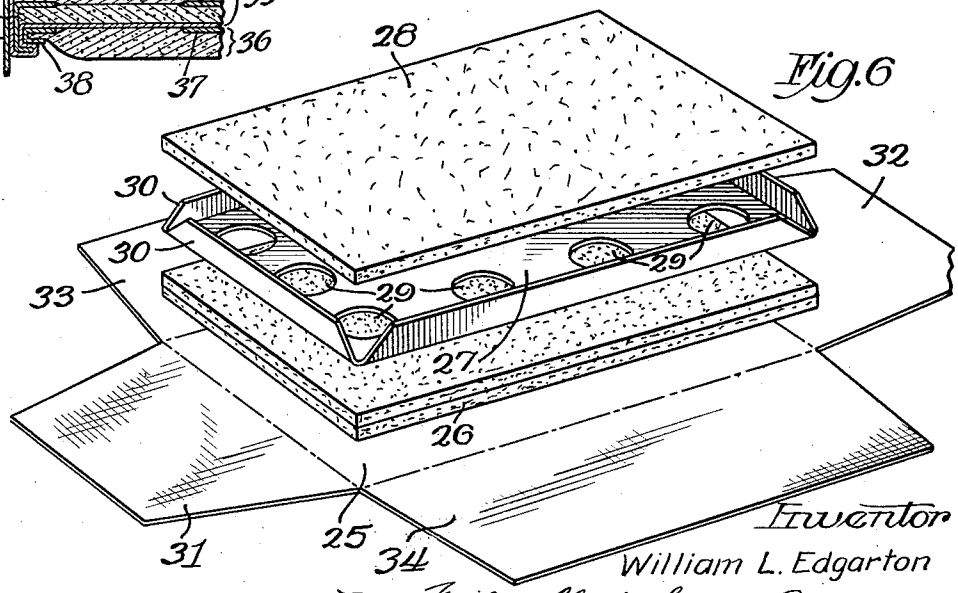



Fig. 6




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Patented July 21, 1931 1,815,371

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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## INKING PAD

Application filed March 30, 1929. Serial No. 351,173.

This invention relates to inking pads and is more particularly concerned with inking pads of the type ordinarily used for inking rubber stamps and like printing devices.

Objects of the invention are to provide an inking pad of a durable construction so that the pad will be serviceable in practical use for long periods of time; to provide a pad which will be easily renewable or re-inked; to provide such a pad which will maintain a smooth or full inking surface and which will not break down even after long continuous service; to provide an inking pad having an effective cushioning means whereby noise incident to ordinary use is substantially reduced; to provide a construction for facilitating the stretching of a fabric top as an incident to assembling of the pad; and, in general, it is the object of my invention to provide an improved inking pad of the type above referred to.

Other objects and advantages will be understood by reference to the following specification and accompanying drawings in which I have illustrated an inking pad embodying a selected form of my invention.

In the drawings:

Fig. 1 is a perspective of my improved inking pad, the cover thereof being shown open.

Fig. 2 is a perspective showing the pad structure proper removed from the receptacle and showing the formation of the bottom of the receptacle.

Figs. 3 and 4 are sections on the line 3—3 and 4—4, respectively, of Fig. 2, the pad structure proper being omitted in Fig. 3 to facilitate illustration.

Figs. 5 and 6 are perspectives illustrating certain steps in the assembling of the pad unit proper and illustrating the component parts thereof; and

Figs. 7 and 8 are detail sections through an edge portion of the pad unit, each view illustrating a step in the assembling of the parts forming the pad unit.

Referring now to the drawings, I have illustrated an inking pad comprising an outer container or receptacle 10 which receives an inking pad unit 11, a cover 12, hingedly connected to the back of the receptacle 10 being provided for closing the receptacle when not in use so as to prevent excessive drying out or evaporation of the ink from the pad 11.

As best shown in Figs. 2, 3 and 4, the receptacle 10 may be of comparatively thin sheet metal construction, for example, tin, the receptacle including a bottom wall 13 and side walls 14, 15, 16 and 17 formed integral, preferably by a stamping operation. The cover 12 may also be of light weight sheet material such as tin, and is hingedly connected to the back wall 17 by means of any well known form of hinge such as illustrated at 18.

The bottom 13 of the receptacle is preferably provided with a plurality of spaced recesses which are adapted to receive ink and, therefore, serve as reservoirs for supplying ink to the pad proper, the ink being absorbed from the reservoirs by the pad. I may form such recesses in the bottom of the receptacle merely by depressing spaced portions thereof, but in the present instance I prefer to form these recesses as an incident to the provision of cushioning means for deadening noise which is incidental to the use of inking pads. Accordingly, I provide the bottom wall 13 of the receptacle with a plurality of spaced apertures 19, best shown in Fig. 4, and cup members 20 of resilient or compressible material such as rubber, are associated with each of the apertures. The cup members 20 may be secured to the bottom of the receptacle in any suitable manner and in the present instance I accomplish this by means of a liner for the inside of the receptacle which includes a bottom wall liner 21 and side wall liner portions 22.

The liner 21—22 may be formed of sheet rubber and the bottom wall thereof is provided with apertures corresponding to the recesses in the cup members 20. As clearly shown in Fig. 4, bottom wall liner 21 is united to peripheral portions, i. e. inner top edge portions of the upper ends of the side wall portions of the cup members 20. These parts may conveniently be united by vulcanizing or in any other suitable manner.

It will be seen that the liner 21—22 and cup members 20 constitute, in effect, a one-piece rubber receptacle which is impervious to ink and which, therefore, serves to prevent leakage of ink from the pad unit and cup members to the outside of the receptacle. It will also be seen that the inside of the cup members constitute reservoirs 20*a* for ink and that the cup members serve as cushioning means for the inking pad, and it will, therefore, be understood that noise ordinarily incident to the use of pads of this general class, is greatly reduced.

The reservoirs 20*a* may be entirely independent of each other but I prefer to provide grooves or troughs 23 for connecting the reservoirs whereby ink is distributed to all of said reservoirs in substantially equal amounts. For forming these grooves or troughs, the bottom wall 13 of the outer receptacle may be formed with depressed portions such as 24 and the bottom liner 21 may be formed to lie closely adjacent the said depressed portions 24.

The pad unit 11 is formed to fit snugly in the lined receptacle 10 as clearly shown in Fig. 4, while at the same time being removable as a unit to permit cleaning or filling of the reservoirs 20*a* with ink or the like. The pad unit structure is best shown in Figs. 5 to 8 inclusive. In Figs. 5 and 6 I have illustrated the pad parts in inverted position for convenience and clearness in illustration, and as best shown in Fig. 6, the pad includes a fabric cover member 25, a top pad 26 of absorbent material, (two layers in the present instance,) a supporting or reenforcing plate 27 and an inside pad member 28. The support or reenforcing plate 27 is preferably formed of comparatively rigid or stiff material, in the present instance a tin plate, the same being provided with a plurality of perforations such as 29. The plate 27 is also provided with side and end flanges 30, which project angularly from the plan of the plate, and with the plate 27 form a receptacle.

The pad part 28 fits inside of the receptacle thus formed and the parts illustrated in Fig. 6 are assembled substantially as shown in Fig. 5. It will be seen that cover 25 includes oppositely disposed flap portions 31, 32, 33 and 34 and that these flap portions extend over the outside of the flanges 30 of the plate 27 and then inwardly of the plate, under the pad part 28.

The parts shown separated in Fig. 6 are shown in one stage of assembly in Fig. 5 and are designated as an entirety by the reference numeral 35. An additional element of the pad unit is shown at 36 and includes a perforated metal plate member 37, opposite edges of which are rebent as shown at 38, to stiffen the plate and also to secure a layer of absorbent padding 39 to the plate, as clearly shown at 40. The outside dimensions of the insert element 36 are such that the insert will fit snugly between the flanges 30 of the plate member 27 of the unit 35.

The insert 36 is positioned between the flanges 30—30 of the plate 27 and it will be seen by inspection of Fig. 7, that upon insertion of the said part 36, the fabric cover 25 of the pad unit 35 will incidentally be drawn taut over the top padding 26. When the part 36 is in place between the flanges 30, the latter, together with adjacent portions of the cover 25 are bent inwardly (as shown in dotted lines in Fig. 7) over the marginal edge portions of the part 36 with which the flanges are associated. The bending of the flanges 30 serves to further draw the fabric cover taut over the top padding 26 and the structure thus becomes a unitary structure which can be manufactured and handled separately from the inking pad receptacle.

Principally for finishing off the top surface of the pad, I provide an outer frame 41 which consists of a top marginal portion 42 adapted to overlie top marginal portions of the pad unit structure above described and depending flange portions 43 which extend over the outer edges of the said pad unit. The lower marginal portion of the side flanges 43 are adapted to be bent inwardly under adjacent marginal portions of the pad unit as clearly shown in Fig. 8, to thereby permanently lock the outer frame 41 in place on the pad unit. The outer frame, in addition to improving the general appearance of the pad unit also serves to facilitate handling of the pad unit especially after the same is soaked or impregnated with ink. The outer frame also protects the edges of the pad unit from injury in case the pad unit becomes stuck in the receptacle by dried ink and must be pried out to permit refilling of the reservoirs 20*a*.

I am aware that changes may be made in the above described inking pad construction without departing from the spirit of the invention, the scope of which should be determined by reference to the following claims, construing the same as broadly as possible consistent with the state of the art.

I claim as my invention:

1. In an inking pad of the class described, the combination of a relatively stiff supporting member, an absorbent pad on top of said member, and a fabric cover over said pad, said cover having oppositely extending flap portions folded under said supporting member, marginal portions of said support, together with adjacent portions of said cover, being rebent inwardly so as to grip and hold said cover taut over said pad.

2. In an inking pad of the class described, the combination of a relatively stiff supporting member, an absorbent pad on top of said member, a fabric cover over said pad, said

cover having oppositely extending flap portions folded under said support, and cover tightening means associated with marginal portions of said support around which said marginal portions, together with adjacent portions of said cover, are bent inwardly so as grip and hold said cover taut over said pad.

3. In an inking pad of the class described, the combination of a relatively stiff support having a laterally projecting flange at one edge, an absorbent pad on top of said member, a fabric cover over said pad, said cover being provided with flap portions respectively extending around said flange and the opposite edge of said support, and inwardly under the bottom thereof, an insert associated with said flange for stretching said cover and over which insert said flange is bent to hold said cover so stretched.

4. In an inking pad of the class described, the combination of a top pad, a relatively stiff support under said pad, provided with oppositely disposed depending edge flanges, a fabric cover over said pad provided with flap portions extending around said depending flanges and inwardly under the bottom of said support, and an insert between said flanges, said flanges and adjacent portions of said cover being bent under said insert to hold said cover taut over said pad.

5. In an inking pad of the class described, the combination of a top pad, a relatively stiff support under said pad having marginal flanges projecting angularly from the plane of said support and forming a receptacle, a fabric cover over said pad provided with flaps extending around said opposite flanges and under said support, and means associated with said flanges for stretching said cover over said pad and over which said flanges are bent so as to hold said cover taut over said pad.

6. In an inking pad of the class described, the combination of a top pad, a perforated metal plate under said pad, provided at opposite edges with depending flanges, a fabric cover over said pad, provided with flaps extending downwardly over said flanges and inwardly under said plate, an insert fitting between said flanges and serving to draw said cover taut as an incident to insertion of said insert between said flanges, said flanges, together with adjacent portions of said cover flaps being bent inwardly under said insert to hold said cover taut over said pad.

7. In an inking pad of the class described, the combination of a top pad, a perforated metal plate under said pad, provided at opposite edges with depending flanges, a fabric cover over said pad, provided with flaps extending downwardly over said flanges and inwardly under said plate, a perforated metal insert plate fitting between said flanges and serving to draw said cover taut as an incident to insertion of said insert between said flanges, said flanges, together with adjacent portions of said cover flaps being bent inwardly under said insert to hold said cover taut over said pad.

8. In an inking pad of the class described, the combination of a top pad, a perforated metal plate under said pad, provided at opposite edges with depending flanges, a pad under said metal plate, between said flanges, a fabric cover over said pad, provided with flaps extending downwardly over said flanges and inwardly under said pad, a perforated metal insert plate fitting between said flanges and serving to draw said cover taut as an incident to insertion of said insert between said flanges, said flanges, together with adjacent portions of said cover flaps being bent inwardly under said insert to hold said cover taut over said pad.

9. In an inking pad of the class described, the combination of a top pad, a perforated metal plate under said pad, provided at opposite edges with depending flanges, a fabric cover over said pad, provided with flaps extending downwardly over said flanges and inwardly under said plate, an insert fitting between said flanges and serving to draw said cover taut as an incident to insertion of said insert between said flanges, said insert comprising a metal plate having marginal portions rebent and a pad associated therewith and having marginal portions clamped between said plate and rebent marginal portions, said flanges, together with adjacent portions of said cover flaps being bent inwardly under said insert to hold said cover taut over said pad.

10. In an inking pad of the class described, the combination of a top pad, a relatively stiff support under said pad, provided with oppositely disposed depending edge flanges, a fabric cover over said pad provided with flap portions extending around said depending flanges and inwardly under the bottom of said support, an insert between said flanges, said flanges and adjacent portions of said cover being bent under said insert to hold said cover taut over said pad, thereby forming a pad unit, and an outer frame comprising a top marginal portion projecting inwardly over marginal portions of said pad unit and side flanges depending from said top portions and bent inwardly under the bottom marginal portions of said pad unit.

11. In an inking pad of the class described, the combination of a rigid receptacle having a bottom wall provided with a plurality of spaced apertures, a compressible cup member secured to said bottom wall in each of said apertures and depending from said bottom wall, said cup members serving as ink reservoirs and some of said members serving as cushion feet for said receptacle, and a unitary ink absorbing pad structure mounted in

said receptacle adapted to absorb ink from said reservoirs.

12. In an inking pad of the class described, the combination of a rigid receptacle having a bottom wall provided with a plurality of spaced apertures, a compressible cup member secured to said bottom wall in each of said apertures and depending from said bottom wall, a liner of flexible, non-ink absorbing material inside of said bottom wall and united to peripheral portions of each of said cup members through said apertures, whereby said cup members are, in effect, secured to said bottom wall, each cup being adapted to serve as an ink reservoir, and a unitary ink absorbing pad structure mounted in said receptacle and adapted to absorb ink from said reservoirs.

13. In an inking pad of the class described, the combination of a rigid receptacle having side walls and a bottom wall provided with a plurality of spaced apertures, a rubber cup member under each of said apertures, a liner of sheet rubber on the inside of said bottom wall, united to peripheral portions of said cup members through said apertures whereby said cup members are, in effect, secured to said bottom wall, said cups being adapted to serve as ink reservoirs, and a unitary, ink absorbing pad structure mounted in said receptacle and adapted to absorb ink from said reservoirs.

14. In an inking pad of the class described, the combination of a rigid receptacle having side walls and a bottom wall provided with a plurality of spaced apertures, a rubber cup member under each of said apertures, a liner of sheet rubber on the inside of said bottom and side walls, united to peripheral portions of said cup members through said apertures whereby said cup members are, in effect, secured to said bottom wall, said cups being adapted to serve as ink reservoirs, and a unitary, ink absorbing pad structure mounted in said receptacle and adapted to absorb ink from said reservoirs.

15. In an inking pad of the class described, the combination of a rigid receptacle having side walls and a bottom wall provided with a plurality of spaced apertures, a rubber cup member under each of said apertures, a liner of sheet rubber on the inside of said bottom wall, united to peripheral portions of said cup members through said apertures whereby said cup members are, in effect, secured to said bottom wall, said cups being adapted to serve as ink reservoirs, and a unitary, ink absorbing pad structure mounted in said receptacle and adapted to absorb ink from said reservoirs, said bottom wall and liner being provided with troughs connecting said reservoirs for effecting distribution of ink to all of said reservoirs.

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